



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

AMENDMENT "B" AFTER FINAL

APPLICANTS: Shinichiro Yamada et al. ATTY DOCKET NO: 09792909-4734
SERIAL NO.: 09/747,627 GROUP ART UNIT: 1745
DATE FILED: December 22, 2000 EXAMINER: J. Crepeau
INVENTION: "METHODS OF PRODUCING NEGATIVE ELECTRODE
MATERIAL, NEGATIVE ELECTRODE, AND NON-AQUEOUS
ELECTROLYTE BATTERY"

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

SIR:

This Amendment "B" After Final is filed in response to the Final Office Action of October 25, 2002. Please reconsider the application in view of the amendment and remarks presented below.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 4, and 6 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method of producing a negative electrode using a negative electrode black mix containing a negative electrode material composed of a mixture of a non-carbon material and a carbon material, comprising the steps of:

pulverizing and classifying each of the non-carbon material and the carbon material in an inert gas atmosphere, and

mixing the non-carbon material and the carbon material in an inert gas atmosphere,

applying the negative electrode black mix on a negative electrode collector and drying the negative electrode black mix in an inert gas atmosphere or a dry air atmosphere,

wherein a ratio of an average particle size R_M of the non-carbon material in the negative electrode material to an average particle size R_C of the carbon material in the negative electrode material is in a range of $R_M/R_C \leq 1$.

Adjustment date: 05/30/2003 EEKUBAY1
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